

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended)

An isolated polynucleotide containing a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- a) a polynucleotide having at least 50% similarity with a polynucleotide coding for a polypeptide having the function of transcription factor and having ~~and~~ an amino acid sequence of sequence SEQ ID No: 3,
- b) a complementary polynucleotide of polynucleotide a) and
- c) a polynucleotide comprising at least 15 consecutive bases of the polynucleotide defined in a) or b).

Claim 2 (previously amended)

A polynucleotide according to claim 1 in that this polynucleotide is a DNA.

Claim 3 (previously amended)

A polynucleotide according to claim 1 in that this polynucleotide is a RNA.

Claim 4 (previously amended)

A polynucleotide as defined in claim 2 comprising the nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No: 1.

Claim 5 (previously amended)

A DNA sequence as defined in claim 1 wherein this DNA sequence is that of the CATfIIIA gene coding for a protein having the biological function of transcription factor of Candida albicans CATIIIA containing the nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No: 1.

Claim 6 (previously amended)

A DNA sequence according to claim 5 having the sequence starting at nucleotide 720 and finishing at nucleotide 1955 of SEQ ID No: 1.

Claim 7 (previously amended)

A DNA sequence of the CATFIIIA gene according to claim 5 coding for the amino acid sequence SEQ ID No: 3 (413 amino acids).

Claim 8 (previously amended)

A DNA sequence coding for the transcription factor CATFIIIA according to claim 5 and DNA sequences which hybridize with the sequence and/or have a significant homology with this sequence of fragments of it and having the same function.

Claim 9 (previously amended)

A DNA sequence according to claim 5 comprising modifications introduced by deletion, insertion and/or substitution of at least one nucleotide coding for a protein having the same biological activity as the transcription factor CATFIIIA.

Claim 10 (previously amended)

A DNA sequence according to claim 5 as well as the DNA sequences which have a nucleotide sequence homology of at least 50% with the said DNA sequence.

Claim 11 (previously amended)

A DNA sequence according to claim 5 as well as the DNA sequence which code for a protein with a similar function as the amino acids sequence of which has a homology of at least 50%, with the amino acid sequence coded by the said DNA sequence.

Claim 12 (previously canceled)

Claim 13 (previously amended)

A process for the preparation of the recombinant protein CATFIHA having the amino acid sequence SEQ ID No: 3 comprising expression of the DNA sequence according to claim 5 in a host, then isolation and purification of said recombinant protein.

Claim 14 (previously amended)

An expression vector containing the DNA sequence according to claim 5.

Claim 15 (previously amended)

A host cell transformed with a vector according to claim 14.

Claim 16 (previously amended)

The process of claim 13 wherein the host cell is DH5 alpha E.coli or XL1-Blue E.coli.

Claim 17 (previously amended)

The process of claim 13 wherein the host cell is *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*.

Claim 18 (previously amended)

The plasmid deposited at the CNCM under the number I-2072.

Claims 19- 26 (previously cancelled)

Claim 27 (previously amended)

Kit for the diagnosis of fungal infections comprising a DNA sequence as defined in claim 5 or a functional fragment of this sequence.

Claims 28-29 (previously cancelled)

Claim 30 (previously cancelled)

Claim 31 (previously cancelled)